

STATEWIDE PLANNING E-NEWS

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Charlestown Housing Bond Grants

The Town of Charlestown is seeking applications for affordable housing bond fund grants for the development of low to moderate income housing within the town.

Bond funds, totaling \$800,000, are available for land acquisition. Bond funds are also available in amounts not to exceed \$50,000, totaling \$200,000, for initiative grants to non-profit agencies. This will be an open ended application process until all bond funds have been expended. Applications will be accepted in the Office of the Town Clerk and will be forwarded to the Town Council for consideration on the next available meeting date. Please contact the Town Clerk's Office for dates and times of Town Council meetings.

Please submit your proposal marked "Affordable housing Grant" to the Office of the Town Clerk; Town Hall; 4540 South County Trail; Charlestown, RI 02813. Please direct any questions to the Town Planner at 364-1225 or at planner@charlestownri.org.

The Town of Charlestown reserves the right to reject any or all applications or parts thereof, and accept those in the best interest of the Town.

University of Rhode Island Lectures

URI Landscape Architecture Lectures 2011 – 2012

The University of Rhode Island 2011—2012 Landscape Architecture Lectures series begins its new season on October 6 at 7:00 p.m. with David Lustberg who will discuss "Streets as Open Spaces". All lectures, with the exception of the October 27 lecture, are held in the Weaver Auditorium on the Kingston Campus of the University of Rhode Island. This series is co-sponsored by the College of the Environment and Life Sciences, the Rhode Island Chapter of the American Society of Landscape Architects, and the Rhode Island Nursery and Landscape Association. All lectures are free and open to the public. The lecture halls are handicapped accessible. General questions about the series may be directed to 874-2983 or to wagre@uri.edu.

- October 6 David Lustberg, ASLA, Principal, Arterial, Montclair, NJ. *"Streets as Public Spaces: The Role Landscape Architecture Plays In the Design of Our Streets"*.
- October 27 Graham Young, ASLA, Senior Lecturer, University of Pretoria, South Africa. *Transforming Urban Open Space: The Development of Parks in Soweto With a Focus on the Sustainable Integration of Water Systems and the Role Community Factors Play in the Planning and Design of Parks*. ** NOTE ** This lecture will be held in the Kingston Campus CBLs Building.
- November 17 TBA.
- December 1 Keith LeBlanc, Principal, Keith LeBlanc Landscape Architecture, Boston, MA. *Site Responses for Residential Design*.
- February 23 Catherine Weaver, Principal, Tupelo Gardenworks, Wakefield, RI. *Challenges From the Field*.
- March 22 Calvin Ahbe, Principal, Ahbe Landscape Architects, Culver City, CA. *Work at The Steel Yard: Reinventing the Home of the Iron Chief*.

OTD Course Schedule

Office of Training and Development

The OTD course schedule of classes is available at www.admin.ri.gov/otd/. Check the website for classes, times, and registration information. Please contact Melissa Day at 222-2178 or at mday@gw.doa.state.ri.us if you have any questions, or would like to offer any suggestions for future offerings.

Canon Envirothon

Fifty-four teams from 45 US states, eight Canadian provinces and one Canadian territory competed in the 2011 North American Envirothon Competition, held at Mount Allison University in Sackville, New Brunswick, Canada. Over \$125,000 in scholarships and Canon products were awarded to the top 15 teams, the Rhode Island team finished in 10th place overall.

Canon Envirothon is a 501(c)3 not-for-profit organization established to coordinate the delivery of an environmental education program for high school students throughout North America. The environmental education program consists of the annual Canon Envirothon Competition in which winning teams from participating states and Canadian provinces compete for recognition and scholarships by demonstrating their knowledge of environmental science and natural resource management. The competition is centered on four universal testing categories: soils/land use; aquatic ecology; forestry and wildlife; and a current environmental issue.

The Envirothon program is an effective educational tool, capable of supplementing environmental education both inside and outside the classroom. Led by a volunteer advisor, teams usually meet from late autumn until spring. Teams work collaboratively to develop their knowledge of ecology and natural resource management and to practice their environmental problem-solving skills in preparation for Envirothon competitions.

Information on the Canon Envirothon is available on the web at <http://www.envirothon.org/>.

Information on the Rhode Island Envirothon program is available at www.rienvirothon.org or by contacting Norman Hammond at 647-5843 or at riffanh@verizon.net.

Statewide Planning Committee Meetings

Technical Committee Meeting: scheduled for September 9 at 9:00 a.m., Conference Room A on the second floor of the Justice William E. Powers Building, Department of Administration, One Capitol Hill, Providence. For the latest schedule information please see the Committee Calendar at www.planning.ri.gov/misc/calendar.htm.

State Planning Council Meeting: scheduled for September 15 at 9:00 a.m., Conference Room A on the second floor of the Justice William E. Powers Building, Department of Administration, One Capitol Hill, Providence. For the latest schedule information see the Committee Calendar at www.planning.ri.gov/misc/calendar.htm.

Transportation Advisory Committee Meeting: scheduled for September 22 at 6:30 p.m., meeting location to be determined. For the latest schedule information see the Committee Calendar at www.planning.ri.gov/misc/calendar.htm.

Northeast Private Well Symposium

University of Rhode Island Cooperative Extension water quality advisors and several partner organizations throughout the Northeast are coordinating the 2011 Northeast Private Well Symposium, which will take place November 14 and 15 in Southbury, CT. This event provides a forum in which researchers, government officials, water professionals, and anyone interested in water quality can discuss current issues and set priorities for future work.

Presentation topics at this year's symposium will include: *Impact of Hydrofracturing on Groundwater*; *Testing Private Well Water and Interpreting Results*; *Public Health and Regulation of Private Wells*; *"Groundwater Quality Issues in New England*; and *Arsenic and Manganese in Drinking Water*.

Early Bird conference registration fees are in effect through September 30. For more information or to register, visit <http://www.usawaterquality.org/nesci/symposium2011/> or contact Alyson McCann at alyson@uri.edu or 874-5398.

RIGIS Upcoming Event Calendar

The RIGIS (Rhode Island Geographic Information System) home page has an event calendar on the right hand side listing upcoming GIS programs and events. The calendar can be enlarged by clicking the 'Event Calendar' link at the top of the calendar. Basic information on the programs and event is displayed; clicking the basic information will open a new screen with additional information.

If you are interested in having an event added to this calendar, please submit the event details to [RIGIS Coordinator Shane White](#) for consideration.

STATEWIDE PLANNING E-NEWS

SEPTEMBER 2011

2011 Planning Challenge Grants

Statewide Planning Challenge Grants

There is a total of approximately \$1,000,000 available in FY 2012 for project grant awards in amounts up to \$100,000. Multi-community Corridor Studies may be higher. Unless otherwise noted in the RFP, each grantee will be required to provide a match share totaling 20% of the total project cost.

Planning Challenge Grants are administered by the Statewide Planning Program and funded with Federal Highway Administration Metropolitan Planning funds received by the State of Rhode Island and allocated to the Statewide Planning Program in its role as staff to State Planning Council, the designated Metropolitan Planning Organization for Rhode Island. The purpose of the grant program is to provide funding for statewide, regional and local planning studies leading to the implementation of the State Guide Plan, particularly Land Use 2025 and Transportation 2030.

The State Guide Plan is Rhode Island's long-range planning document. It comprises many separately published elements covering a range of topics including transportation, land use, outdoor recreation, water supply and historic preservation. Two of the most recently updated elements are Land Use 2025 (2006) and Transportation 2030 (2008). These elements envision a Rhode Island with walkable, mixed-use growth centers complimented by a first class transportation infrastructure and a connected greenspace network.

In addition, projects that specifically address improving the quality or increasing the availability of affordable homes may be eligible for additional funding under Rhode Island Housing's Targeted Assistance Grant Program. This additional grant award, not to exceed \$10,000, may be used to satisfy the match requirement outlined above.

Applications for funding will be accepted on a competitive basis within the limits of available funds. The submission deadline is November 10, 2011. The Request for Proposals and Frequently Asked Questions sheet can be found at <http://www.planning.state.ri.us/misc/pcgrants.htm>.

Any questions should be directed to Karen Scott, Assistant Chief of the Statewide Planning Program at 222-4411 or Karen.Scott@doa.ri.gov.

Division of Municipal Finance

Municipal Memo: This Legislative Reference Service can be found at www.muni-info.ri.gov/legislation. Both current and past issues are available at this site.

Directory of City & Town Officials: This 2011 directory, and updates as of July 25, is available at www.muni-info.ri.gov/publications. Paper copies of the directory are also available; please contact Susan Moss at Susan.Moss@dor.ri.gov or at 222-4468 for specifics.

Extend the Reach of Your GIS

Join ESRI on September 20 for a free half-day seminar between 8:00 a.m. and 12:00 noon. The seminar will show you how to extend the reach of your GIS to a wider audience through mobile and web capabilities in ArcGIS. Take advantage of your existing Esri GIS tools on platforms and devices you already use in your organization.

In this seminar you will learn how to:

- Share your GIS work and maps with the rest of your organization.
- Empower your field staff to take your authoritative information into the field and edit data and maps directly from the field.
- Engage the public by disseminating information and allowing citizens to become sensors for your organization and the community.
- Support better decision making by providing executives with accurate and up-to-date information.

Registration and additional information can be found at <http://www.esri.com/events/seminars/extend-your-reach/index.html>.

Economic Assistance Grants

Applications for Economic Development Administration (EDA) Economic Assistance Grants for the Federal Fiscal Quarter beginning January 1 should be submitted to the Statewide Planning Strategic Planning staff by November 1. Submit applications to Robert Griffith, Chief, Office of Strategic Planning and Economic Development; Statewide Planning; One Capitol Hill; Providence, RI 02908. For additional information contact Robert Griffith at 222-5817 or at Robert.Griffith@doa.ri.gov

WTS-Celebrating Five Years

WTS-Rhode Island –

Join WTS-Rhode Island for an evening reception Celebrating Five Years with special guest Therese W. McMillan, Deputy Administrator, Federal Transit Administration. The reception will be held from 5:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. on Wednesday, September 28 at the Rhode Island Convention Center Rotunda Room in Providence. Tickets are \$30 for WTS members and \$40 for non-members. To register for this event please contact Angela Saunders at 333-2382 or asaunders@beta-inc.com by Wednesday, September 21. Click the following link to view the reception invitation: <http://tinyurl.com/3at72b5>.

Housing and Population Quick Tables

CENSUS 2010

The 2010 Census SF1 Quick Tables (QT) of Housing and Population have been released. This dataset has more detail than the demographic profile data and can be found on the Census website at <http://factfinder2.census.gov/faces/nav/jsf/pages/index.xhtml>. To access the data for a specific locality go to the “Quick Start” box in the middle of the page and enter ‘qt’ (without the quotes) in the “topic or table name” box; then enter the community name in the “geography” box. In some cases you will get a choice of names on a dropdown menu: it is generally best to pick the community listing that includes ‘CDP’ or ‘City’ as part of the official designation; using other listings can result in your receiving a ‘No Results Found’ message.

The Census offers a Fact Finder help page on their web site at: http://factfinder2.census.gov/faces/nav/jsf/pages/using_factfinder.xhtml.

Statewide Planning has developed Rhode Island level tables from the Census QT data. These tables are available on the Statewide Planning site at <http://www.planning.ri.gov/census/ri2010.htm>.

Grow Smart Rhode Island Land-Use Training Collaborative/ Narragansett Bay Research Reserve Electronic Calendar

This calendar is available for use by elected and appointed municipal officials and planners, citizen advocates, the natural resource protection community and the design and development community. The calendar can be found on the web at www.communityconnectionri.org. Please see the GrowSmart web page at <http://www.growsmartri.org/index.cfm?fuseaction=Page.viewPage&pageId=489> for information about listing a workshop or conference.

Complete Streets for Rhode Island

Grow Smart Rhode Island Workshop

GrowSmartRI is offering a Complete Streets Workshop for Municipal Planners, Public Works and Public Safety Officials, Public and Private Urban/Transportation Planners, Traffic Engineers and Transportation Advocates. The workshop will be on Friday, September 16, from 9:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. at the Training Center - RIDOT Maintenance Facility; 360 Lincoln Avenue; Warwick.

Complete Streets - streets designed and operated to provide safe access for pedestrians, bicyclists, motorists and transit riders of all ages and abilities - can help Rhode Islanders to increase physical activity in their daily lives and can enhance community livability. However, in order for Rhode Island communities to realize the multiple benefits of Complete Streets, planners, traffic engineers and public safety officials need to deal with a range of constraints and challenges including relatively narrow existing roadways, lack of financial resources, and the misconceptions about Complete Streets impacts on commercial property.

The purpose of this workshop is to expand Rhode Island's collective knowledge about Complete Streets and to increase our collective state capacity to implement Complete Streets concepts. The workshop will:

- Use a case study approach to present the various Complete Streets design elements as they apply to local and arterial roads in urban, suburban and rural contexts
- Provide realistic discussions of funding options and sources, including opportunities for incorporating Stormwater funds into your street redesign budget and for public-private partnerships.
- Suggest what the state and municipalities can realistically expect in terms of return on investment. The presenters will provide real-case numbers from New England communities that have implemented Complete Streets
- Provide examples of effective approaches for educating the public about Complete Streets.
- Give attendees an opportunity to apply what they have learned in a hands-on exercise based on real Rhode Island situations.

Throughout the workshop, the discussion will draw on the experiences of those in attendance, many of whom are already tackling the challenge of implementing various Complete Streets elements. There will be opportunities for planners, engineers and public safety officials to share their various perspectives.

The workshop will be presented by Ted DeSantos, PE, PTOE, a Senior Vice President and Principal at Fuss & O'Neill, and Jennifer Nelson, AICP, EIT, LEED GA, a Transportation Planner at Fuss & O'Neill. Ted has 17 years of experience in transportation planning, pedestrian safety, complete streets and urban development projects and he has worked with a variety of New England municipalities to design, promote and execute Complete Streets projects. Jennifer's transportation planning and engineering work emphasizes placemaking, sustainable transportation systems and a focus on integrating environmental infrastructure and community concerns. Her experience includes comprehensive transportation plans and studies related to Complete Streets design, travel behavior, multimodal accessibility, parking supply and management, and traffic impact analyses.

The workshop, lunch and design exercise are offered free of charge to non-profit and municipal and state employees. Private sector employees are welcome to attend for a registration fee of \$25.00.

Seating is limited, pre registration is required; please register early. For more information or to register, please contact: Lauren Pendergast, Training Coordinator; Grow Smart Rhode Island; at 273-5711 x 6, or at lpendergast@growsmartri.org

FY 2013-2016 TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

The State Planning Council is developing the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) for federal fiscal years 2013-2016. The TIP is a multi-year program of Bicycle / Pedestrian, Bridge, Congestion Management Air Quality (CMAQ), Enhancement, Highway, Interstate, Major Projects, Pavement Management, Planning, Study and Development, Traffic Safety, Transit, Administration, and Earmark projects that are eligible to receive federal funding. Any municipality, organization, or individual may submit project proposals.

Project proposal application forms and other information are available on the Statewide Planning Program's website at www.planning.ri.gov/transportation/ or are available upon request by contacting the Statewide Planning Program at 222-7901.

Project proposal application forms must be received by the R.I. Statewide Planning Program, One Capitol Hill, 3rd Floor, Providence, RI 02908 no later than 3:00 p.m., Friday, October 28, 2011. Workshops have been scheduled at the Rhode Island Department of Administration to provide general information regarding proposal submission instructions for the 2013-2016 Transportation Improvement Program.

Monday, October 3, 2011 at 10:00 a.m.

Department of Administration
William E. Powers Building
Conference Room A, 2nd Floor
One Capitol Hill, Providence, RI

Monday, October 3, 2011 at 6:00 p.m.

Department of Administration
William E. Powers Building
Conference Room A, 2nd Floor
One Capitol Hill, Providence, RI

The workshop location is accessible to individuals with disabilities. Individuals requesting assistance should contact Ms. Dawn Vittorioso at 222-7901 at least 48 hours prior to the scheduled start of a hearing. Public transit schedule information for the workshops is available from RIPTA at 781-9400 or at www.ripta.com.